

- facially absurd. While Applicant's register their protest over the PTO's continued extortionistic misuse of restriction procedure, we have cancelled the restricted claims.

35USC112, first paragraph

The claims have been amended to require at least 5 amino acids and hence do not encompass a sensor with only two amino acids.

35USC112, second paragraph

The claims have been amended to avoid the objected to "comprises fewer" language. As amended, the sensor comprises from 5 to 24 amino acids which means that the sensor may comprise additional, non-amino acid components, such as a fluorescent label, see, e.g. claim 9.

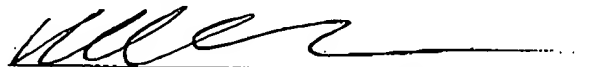
35USC102(a)

By reciting that the sensor comprises 5 to 24 amino acids, the claims are intended to be limited to sensors having no more than 24 SRC-1 amino acids, yet leave room for the inclusion of non-amino acid components such as a fluorescent label, see, e.g. claim 9.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if he would like to amend the claims to clarify the foregoing or seeks further clarification of the claim language.

Applicants hereby petition for a one month (small entity) and any necessary extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overcharges relating to this communication to our Deposit Account No. 19-0750 (order no. T97-012-1).

Respectfully submitted,
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